

Approved For Release 2003/12/22 : CIA-RDP78B05703A000700040011-3

30 December 1969

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Division, IEG

SUBJECT: Preliminary Evaluation of Color in Mission 1108-2

1. A preliminary evaluation of the duplicate positives of the color portion of 1108-2 indicates that it is very low in interpretability and intelligence content. It is quite comparable in interpretability to the first KH mission, 9009. Where airfields are covered it is not possible to tell whether they are occupied or not, and in urban areas it is difficult to discriminate individual buildings. The reasons for this failure are probably due to a combination of the following:

- a. Excessive altitude of the vehicle resulting in small scale.
- b. Degradation wherever haze occurred, which could usually be penetrated by B&W with a haze filter.
- c. Possible focusing problems (TSSG has not found any defocus).

2. The color balance of the mission is excellent and it should be useful for agricultural and geological studies. In the deserts of western China it is possible to detect vehicle tracks in the color film where they disappear normally on B&W film due to the contrast.

3. Unless there turns out to be a major difference between the original and the d.p., it is recommended that NPIC not make a detailed evaluation of the value of color in this mission, as was done for [redacted] because the answers to ERI questions would be largely negative.

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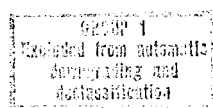
Chm., NPIC Color Coordinating Committee
IEG/NPIC

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